

Abstract

A system for gathering information which may further facilitate electronic commerce is disclosed. In one embodiment, the invention is a method including:

5 receiving requests from one or more users for a specification of a product or service desired by the one or more users; determining vendors who potentially possess the good or service of interest to the one or more users; and outputting e-mails to said vendors requesting information about said good or service. The method may include searching a database having at least a relationship between

10 key words searched by the one or more users and a set of vendors, searching the Internet using a commercially available search engine, or both. The method may further include the step of extracting emails from a set of results of said searching.